

Methodology and Design of the National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs, 2005-06

Stephen J. Blumberg, Ph.D.



**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Health Statistics**

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™

**November 28, 2007
DataSpeak Web Conference**

Locating and Identifying CSHCN

- Random-digit-dial telephone survey using independent random samples for all 50 states plus D.C.
- Screened households for children under 18 years of age
- Screened all children to identify children with special health care needs



CSHCN Defined

- “Children with special health care needs are those children who...
 - ~~have or are at increased risk for~~ a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition, AND
 - who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally.”



CSHCN Screener

- Need or use medicine prescribed by a doctor
- Need or use more medical care, mental health, or educational services than is usual for most children
- Limited or prevented in ability to do things
- Need or get special therapy
- Need or get treatment or counseling for an emotional, developmental, or behavioral problem



Screeners Follow-Up Questions

- Is this due to a medical, behavioral, or other health condition?
- Is this a condition that has lasted or is expected to last 12 months or longer?



Interview Process

- Asked detailed questionnaire for children with special health care needs
- One CSHCN randomly selected from households with multiple CSHCN
- Target was 750 CSHCN per state
- Calling and screening of households continued until we met the target in all states
- Data were collected from April 5, 2005 until February 5, 2007



Interview Process

- Respondent was a parent or guardian knowledgeable about the health of the child
 - 78% mother, 16% father, 4% grandparent
- Interview lasted about 28 minutes (mean)
- Interviews conducted in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, and Korean



SLAITS: The State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey

- National Survey of CSHCN
- National Survey of Children's Health
- National Survey of Early Childhood Health
- National Survey of Adoptive Parents
- National Asthma Survey



Sample Size

- 364,841 children screened for special health care needs
 - Minimum: 5,605 in Delaware
 - Maximum: 11,275 in California
 - More than 7,000 in each of 25 states
- 40,840 completed interviews for CSHCN
 - Minimum: 741 in Alaska
 - Maximum: 939 in California
 - More than 800 in each of 22 states



Response Rates

- Overall response rate: 56.1%
 - Resolution rate = 82.7%
 - Age screener completion rate = 88.4%
 - Screener completion rate = 79.7%
 - Interview completion rate = 96.2%
- 21 states were above 60%
 - Minimum: 49.3% in New Jersey
 - Maximum: 68.3% in North Dakota



CSHCN Questionnaire

- Health and functional status
- Access to care, utilization, unmet need
- Medical home
- Satisfaction with care
- Health insurance and adequacy
- Impact on the family



Improved Content for 2005-06

- Functional status and common health conditions
- Receipt of and unmet need for care coordination
- Unmet need for anticipatory guidance about making transitions to adult health care



New Questions for 2005-06

- Primary language spoken in home
- Unmet need for interpreters
- Number of ER visits
- Number of specialty doctors
- Use of specific health care services
- Receipt of preventive dental care
- Reasons for difficulty using community-based services
- Family structure



Referent Sample

- Independent national sample of children
 - 6,113 household interviews completed
 - One child randomly selected from household
 - 4,955 did not have special health care needs
- Parent or guardian asked every question from the detailed CSHCN interview
- Referent sample estimates for children without special health care needs can be compared with main sample estimates for CSHCN.



SLAITS Web Site

- The SLAITS home page is located at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/slaits.htm>
 - Data files
 - “Design and Operation” report
 - Questionnaire
 - Codebooks
 - Sample SAS programs
 - Instructions for formatting SAS data files
 - Multiply imputed poverty level variables

